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Senate Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

House Bill No.HJR0005  
By Purcell

A RESOLUTION providing for participation of the State of  
Tennessee in a conference of the states.

WHEREAS, the several states, while intended to be equal partners in our nation's  
federal system, have over a period of many years been relegated to subordinate status; and

WHEREAS, one reason states have not been able to compete successfully for power in  
the federal system is that state power is dispersed among the fifty (50) states; and

WHEREAS, the states must therefore find a means to consolidate their power through a  
rallying event that forges consensus and brings states together to take formal action; now,  
therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That  
the following be adopted:

(1) A delegation of five (5) voting persons from the state of Tennessee, shall be  
appointed to represent the state of Tennessee at a Conference of the States for the purposes  
described in Section 2 to be convened as provided in Section 3. The delegation shall consist of  
five (5) voting persons as follows: (a) the governor, or, if the governor does not wish to be a  
member of the delegation then a constitutional officer selected by the governor; and (b) four (4)

legislators, two (2) from each house selected by the presiding officer of that house. No more than two (2) of the four (4) legislators may be from the same political party. Each presiding officer may designate two (2) alternate legislator delegates, one (1) from each party, who have voting privileges in the absence of the primary delegates.

(2) The delegates of The Conference of the States will propose, debate and vote on elements of an action plan to restore checks and balances between states and the national government. Measures agreed upon will be formalized in an instrument called a States' Petition and returned to the delegation's state for consideration by the entire legislature.

(3) The Conference of the States shall be convened under the Section 501(c)(3) auspices of The Council of State Governments in cooperation with the National Governors' Association and the National Conference of State Legislatures no later than two hundred seventy (270) days after at least twenty-six (26) legislatures adopt this resolution without amendment.

(4) Prior to the official convening of The Conference of the States the steering committee will draft:

- (a) the governance structure and procedural rules for the Conference;
- (b) the process for receiving rebalancing proposals; and
- (c) the financial and administrative functions of the Conference, including

The Council of State Governments as fiscal agent.

(5) The bylaws shall:

- (a) conform to the provisions of this resolution;
- (b) specify that each state delegation shall have one (1) vote at the

Conference; and

(c) specify that the Conference agenda be limited to fundamental, structural, long-term reforms.

(6) Upon the official convening of The Conference of the States, the State delegations will vote upon and approve the Conference governing structure, operating rules and bylaws.